

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR GR NATO

SUBJ: PRIVATE MEETING ON FUTURE GREEK RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO

REF: USNATO 2043

BEGIN SUMMARY. GREEK, FRG, UK, ITALIAN, BRITISH AND US PERMREPS AND ASYG KASTL MET UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE IN HIS OFFICE APRIL 24 TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON GREECE-NATO MILITARY RELATIONSHIP. THEODOROPOULOS (GREECE) PRESENTED PAPER CONTAINING INITIAL GOG VIEWS AND REQUESTED COMMENTS OF GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED, AND OF LUNS, WITH VIEW TO TABLING INITIAL GREEK POSITION IN WIDER ALLIED FORUM AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION MAY 12 IN RESTRICTED GROUP. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON GREEK PAPER PRIOR TO MAY 12. END SUMMARY.

1. IN PRESENTING GREEK PAPER (TEXT IN PARA 8 BELOW), THEODOROPOULOS SAID GOG SOUGHT TO INITIATE INFORMAL DISCUSSION AMONG ALLIED REPS PRESENT ON FORM OF GREEK MILITARY COOPERATION IN NATO. STARTING FROM THE PREMISE THAT, IN THE EVENT OF THREAT OF OR ACTUAL AGGRESSION, GREECE WOULD FULLY COOPERATE WITH OTHER ALLIES IN DEFENSE, PROBLEM REMAINED OF DEFINING EXTENT OF PEACETIME COOPERATION IN ORDER TO ANTICIPATE REQUIREMENTS IN EVENT OF HOSTILITIES. GREECE SEES THE NEED, HE SAID, TO COOPERATE

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ON WIDE SCALE IN PEACETIME SO THAT GREEK FORCES COULD MEET ASSIGNED MISSIONS IN EVENT OF WAR.

2. THEODOROPOULOS FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT PERMREPS DISCUSS THE

PAPER WITH THEIR MILITARY ADVISORS, WITH THE AIM OF BETTER ALIGNING THE DOCUMENT WITH NATO PATTERN FOR SUCH PAPERS, AND NOTED ESPECIALLY THAT ATTENTION WAS NEEDED TO DEFINITION OF THREAT OF AGGRESSION REFERRED TO IN PARA 2 OF PAPER TO ALIGN IT WITH NATO ALERT SYSTEM. INVITING A DIALOGUE WITH DELEGATIONS REPRESENTED, THEODOROPOULOS SAID HE HOPED FOR COMMENTS POINTING TO OTHER AREAS OF PAPER ALSO NEEDING CLARIFICATION.

3. IN RESPONSE TO BRUCE'S QUERY, THEODOROPOULOS CLARIFIED THAT PHRASE "THREAT OF AGGRESSION" REFERRED TO THREATS EXTERNAL TO THE TREATY AREA, NOT TO THOSE FROM NATO PARTNERS. LATER IN DISCUSSION, PECK (UK, ALSO SUGGESTED CLARIFICATION OF THE DEFINITION OF "AGGRESSION" IN PARA 4. CATALANO (ITALY) PROPOSED, AND IT WAS LATER AGREED, THAT LUNS SHOULD ASK MC CHAIRMAN FOR HIS PERSONAL VIEWS ON MILITARY ASPECTS OF GREEK DRAFT. PECK CALLED ATTENTION TO USE OF "SHALL" IN TEXT IN SEVERAL INSTANCES AND "MAY" IN OTHERS, WONDERING IF LATTER WAS USED IN PERMISSIVE OR AUTHORIZING SENSE. THEODOROPOULOS THOUGHT INTENT OF DRAFT WAS CLOSER TO "SHALL".

4. DE STAERCKE CHARACTERIZED THE PAPER AS "SENSITIVE" AND REFERRED TO THE QUALIFICATION OF THE GREEK UNDERTAKING AS A JURIDICAL ISSUE NEEDING STUDY ALONG WITH MILITARY ASPECTS. THEODOROPOULOS, NOTING THE PAPER WAS "SKETCHY", REPEATED HIS SUGGESTION THAT MEMBERS OF THE GROUP PROPOSE "CLARIFICATIONS" IN ORDER TO GET THE PAPER IN SHAPE FOR DPC DISCUSSION BY MAKING IT MORE "CONSISTENT".

5. CATALANO, JOINED BY KRAPF (FRG) AND ECHOING CONCERN EXPRESSED BY PECK, SAID GREEK PAPER HAD BROUGHT CLOSER THE TIME WHEN OTHER ALLIES SHOULD BE APPRISED OF GOG VIEWS IN ORDER TO AVOID DANGER THAT SMALL GROUP WOULD PREEMPT DECISIONS PROPERLY TAKEN BY DPC ALLIES. AFTER PECK CAUTIONED AGAINST MOVING DISCUSSION TOO SWIFTLY TO DPC, KASTL OFFERED TO DISCUSS WITH LUNS THE "CONSTITUTIONAL" ISSUE RELATED TO THE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR ADDRESSING THE PAPER AMONG A WIDER CIRCLE OF ALLIES. DE STAERCKE, RECALLING PRECEDENT OF FRANCE-NATO NEGOTIATIONS, SUGGESTED HE
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OR A SENIOR PERMREP MIGHT BE ASKED TO CHAIR AN INFORMAL BODY LIKE THE "GROUP OF FOURTEEN", WITH THE SYG OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT, TO STEER NEGOTIATIONS. THIS APPROACH, HE SAID, WOULD HAVE ADVANTAGE OF MAINTAINING IMPARTIALITY OF SYG. BRUCE COUNSELED STRONGLY AGAINST RAISING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PAPER AT A PERMREPS LUNCH. HOWEVER, HE SAW NO REASON LUNS COULD NOT REFER AT LUNCH TO HIS INTENT TO BROACH THE MATTER IN THE DPC, AND SUGGESTED THAT THEODOROPOULOS ALSO COULD REFER GENERALLY TO HIS PLAN TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS TO THE DPC ON GREEK-NATO ISSUES. BRUCE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT SACEUR'S VIEWS BE SOUGHT.

6. IT WAS AGREED THAT PAPER SHOULD BE MOST CLOSELY HELD. DE STAERCKE INDICATED THAT, SINCE HE WAS CHAIRING MEETING IN THIS

CAPACITY AS DEAN, HE WOULD NOT DISCUSS PAPER WITH BELGIAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES. PERMREPS AND KASTL ALSO AGREED TO RESUME DISCUSSION OF THE PAPER MAY 12 IN SAME SMALL GROUP.

COMMENT: THOUGH WELL HEDGED WITH FACE-SAVERS, WE BELIEVE GREEK PAPER IS A STEP TOWARD REASSERTING GREEK ASSOCIATION WITH NATO'S INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE. FOR EXAMPLE, WHILE CONCEPT OF "RESERVE" FORCES MAY NOT BE THE FORMULA THAT FINALLY EMERGES FROM GREEK-ALLIED NEGOTIATIONS, IT INDICATES A DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY HERETOFORE LACKING. BEYOND THIS, DOCUMENT IS, OF COURSE, A SERIES OF STARK ASSERTIONS THAT WILL NEED TO BE BOTH TIGHTENED AND EXPANDED TO SERVE AS A WORKING BASIS FOR FUTURE MILITARY RELATIONS. THIS PROCESS, LIKELY TO BE LENGTHY, CAN BE EXPEDITED IF: (A) THE US IS IN A POSITION WELL PRIOR TO MAY 12 TO HOLD INFORMAL CONSULTATION WITH THE GREEK AND OTHER DELEGATIONS NOW INVOLVED IN IMPROVEMENTS US SUGGESTS FOR DRAFT; AND (B) A MEASURE OF CONSENSUS CAN BE REACHED IN THE SMALL GROUP ON IMPROVEMENTS BEFORE THE PAPER IS TABLED IN A WIDER FORUM. ONCE THE PAPER IS TABLED, THE ALLIES WILL WANT, OF COURSE, VIEWS OF NMA'S TO AID IN FURTHER REFINING TEXT. OUR AIM, WE BELIEVE, SHOULD BE TO MOVE PRUDENTLY TO SALVE THE GREEK EGO WHILE RESTORING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE THE STATUS QUO ANTE.

7. REGARDING VENUE FOR PURSUING NEGOTIATIONS, EITHER DPC OR AN INFORMAL "GROUP OF THIRTEEN" WOULD BE SATISFACTORY, THOUGH DE STAERCKE'S NEGOTIATING SKILLS COULD BE BETTER UTILIZED IF LATTER WERE SELECTED. END COMMENT.

8. TEXT OF GREEK PAPER FOLLOWS:

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BEGIN TEXT.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME IDEAS CONCERNING A SUGGESTED FRAME OF COOPERATION BETWEEN GREECE AND NATO IN THE MILITARY FIELD. THEY ARE OF A TENTATIVE NATURE AND ARE, NECESSARILY, NOT OF A BINDING CHARACTER UNTIL AN OVERALL AGREEMENT IS REACHED ON THE MODALITIES OF GREECE'S COOPERATION.

1. AS A GENERAL RULE, ALL GREEK FORCES SHALL BE UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND.
2. IN CASE OF CLEAR THREAT OF AGGRESSION, SUCH FORCES AS SHALL MUTUALLY BE AGREED UPON, MAY BE CONSIDERED AS NATO RESERVE FORCES.
3. IN CASE OF IMMINENT OR ACTUAL AGGRESSION SUCH FORCES AS SHALL MUTUALLY BE AGREED UPON, MAY BE ASSIGNED TO NATO.
4. THERE SHALL BE PRIOR AGREEMENT AS TO WHAT CONSTITUTES "THREAT OF AGGRESSION" OR "IMMINENT AGGRESSION".
5. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE COOPERATION OF GREEK FORCES WITH NATO, GREECE MAY PARTICIPATE IN PEACETIME IN THOSE NATO ACTIVITIES THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE FULFILLMENT OF THEIR AGREED NATO MISSION.
6. THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF SUCH PARTICIPATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED AND AGREED UPON AFTER AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON THE POINTS 1-4 ABOVE.

END TEXT.

9. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO MILITARY ADDRESSEES AS DESIRED.
BRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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